

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 DECEMBER 1984

Lebanon

IDF Operation, Talks — Israeli troops stormed three villages near Tyre early on 13 December in a "major operation" that caused many casualties, Voice of Lebanon radio announced. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio announced the postponement of the start of the 13 December talks at Al-Naqurah due to bad weather conditions, which prevented the dispatch of UN helicopters to fetch the Lebanese delegation from Beirut.

Beirut Security — A car-bomb explosion near the Druze community house in West Beirut wounded 10 people, Beirut radio reported. AFP said that two people were killed by the explosion, which came after the resumption of artillery exchanges across the combat lines in the Suq al-Gharb area. The unknown "Yaz-bik Revolutionary Organization" claimed responsibility in a call to the agency, asserting that the bombing was a warning to Druze religious leaders to stop supporting Walid Junblatt, head of the Progressive Socialist Party.

Iraq

A bomb exploded in one of Baghdad's public squares, killing two youths and wounding five others, INA announced. An Interior Ministry spokesman cited by the agency described the bombing as "another odious crime committed by the Syrian and Iranian regimes against the Iraqi people."

Iran

Hijacking — Officials at Mashhad airport foiled a plot by members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq to hijack an Iranian airliner bound for Bushehr and divert it to Kuwait and then Iraq, IRNA reported. Although the incident occurred on 8 December, Iran did not announce it at the time in order not to complicate the affair of the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in remarks cited by the agency. As for the fate of the hijackers of the Kuwaiti plane, Musavi stressed that Iran will only hand them over to the United States if the latter hands over to Iran the "terrorists" who have killed "hundreds" inside Iran and who are continuing their activities with the support of the Americans and the French. In Kuwait, the Iranian charge d'affaires condemned the local press for creating a "hostile atmosphere" against Iran over the hijacking, IRNA noted.

New Oil Terminal — Iran plans to establish a makeshift oil terminal near the entrance to the Gulf in order to head off the Iraqi threat to tankers using Khark Island, according to oil and shipping sources cited by the *GULF DAILY NEWS*. Under the plan, small tankers will carry oil from Khark Island to Sirri Island, 340 miles southeast, where two supertankers will be berthed for use as an export stockpile.

Afghanistan

A strong protest has been made to Pakistan over cross-border shelling on 8 and 10 December, Kabul radio reported.

Israeli Contacts With Jordan, Egypt, USSR

Messages have been exchanged between Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Jordan's King Husayn, Jerusalem radio claimed. However, within the next 2 hours the radio reported a denial from the prime minister's office that any such messages had been exchanged. Meanwhile, Jordan's foreign minister reaffirmed Jordan's rejection of direct negotiations with Israel in an *AL-ANBA* interview cited by KUNA.

As for contacts with Egypt, Jerusalem radio said these are continuing, adding that while some are being handled by the Israeli Foreign Ministry others are being held in secret without Foreign Ministry participation. On the Egyptian side, in remarks reported by MENA, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali reasserted the Egyptian position that improved relations with Israel depend on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, improvement of the living conditions for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, and solving the Tabah problem.

Continuing the "quiet contacts" between Israel and the Soviet Union, Israel's ambassador to the United States met with his Soviet counterpart a few days ago to discuss the Middle East, Jews in the Soviet Union, and the limited ties between the USSR and Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. The Israeli envoy wanted to persuade the Soviet ambassador that Israel is not a tool of the West and that its moves arise from the Middle East conflict rather than from anti-Soviet ideology, according to the radio.

PLO

In a meeting with King Hassan II during a 24-hour visit to Morocco, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat outlined a three-pronged approach for the PLO, which he described in an interview broadcast by Rabat radio. According to 'Arafat, the PLO's first aim is to intensify military operations in southern Lebanon and the occupied land; the second is to consolidate Arab solidarity, especially in order to support Lebanese efforts to unify their country; and the third aim is to benefit from international initiatives to resolve the Middle East crisis.

Overthrow of Mauritanian Leader

During President Khouna Ould Haydala's absence abroad to attend the Franco-African summit, Nouakchott radio announced his overthrow in a "reorganization" by the Military Committee for National Salvation. The committee designated

Colonel Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya as its new chairman and as the new president of the republic, according to the radio. Col Taya is a French-trained officer known for his integrity and lack of political affiliations, AFP noted. Commenting on the reasons for Haydala's removal, Nouakchott radio said the

change was necessary to prevent the amassing of personal power, rectify the style of government, raise moral standards, and restore the credibility of the state. Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry imposed a curfew and closed Mauritanian airports to external flights, the radio reported.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS****South Asia**

Vol VIII No 241

13 December 1984

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i**AFGHANISTAN**

Protest Lodged With Pakistan on Border Shelling	C 1
Army Political Chief Addresses Graduates	C 1
Tribal Jirgas Express Support for Government	C 1
Clandestine Broadcast on Mujahidin Operations [Voice of the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan].....	C 1
BAKHTAR Comments on U.S. Aid to Rebels	C 2

INDIA

Rajiv Gandhi on Unity, Protection of Minorities	E 1
Further Reportage on Bhopal Gas Disaster	E 1
Evacuation Arrangements Completed	E 1
Experts Study Gas Aftereffects	E 1
Congress-I Leader Stoned in Karnataka	E 2
Curfew Imposed in Jammu, Kashmir Border Town	E 2
INDIAN EXPRESS Examines Sri Lankan Situation [3 Dec]	E 2

PAKISTAN

Zia on Referendum, Islamic System of Government	F 1
Afghan Charges of Border Violations Rejected	F 1
Commentary on Peaceful Nature of Nuclear Program	F 1
DAWN Discusses Trade Relations With Iran [8 Dec]	F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES**BANGLADESH**

Delhi: Islamic Parties Form United Front	G 1
--	-----

SRI LANKA

Hameed Dismisses Rajiv Gandhi's Statement	G 1
Cabinet Considers Rajiv Gandhi's Statement	G 1
61-Hour Jaffna, Kilinochchi Curfew Lifted	G 1
Security Forces Arrest 725 Suspected Terrorists	G 2
U.S. Special Envoy Meets Indian Officials	G 2
Delhi: TULF To Study Legislation on Ethnic Issue	G 2

IRAN

Khamene'i Sees Danger in 'Factionalism'	I 1
Musavi Rejects U.S. Criticism on Hijacking	I 1
Plot To Hijack Iranian Aircraft Foiled	I 2
Envoy Condemns Kuwaiti Press on Hijacking	I 2
Montazeri on Social, Economic Concerns of Islam	I 2

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,939	I	3
Troop Departures for Battlefronts Continue	I	3
East Azarbaijan Guards Leave	I	3
Combatants, Support Personnel Depart	I	3
Tehran-Istanbul Passenger Train Service To Resume	I	3
SAIRI Spokesman Visits Iraqi Refugee Camp	I	3
USSR Forces, Afghan Troops Using Chemical Weapons	I	3
<i>[Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL 2 Dec]</i>		
Clandestine: 'Growing Resentment' Against Regime <i>[Radio Nejat-e Iran]</i>	I	4
CORRECTION TO TUDEH STATEMENT	I	4

Protest Lodged With Pakistan on Border Shelling*LD121551 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT
12 Dec 84*

[Text] Citing a report from the country's security forces, the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman said today that as a result of heavy and long-range shelling by the aggressive Pakistani forces stationed near the border with Afghanistan, which took place at 1200 on 8 December in Beshigar region, Konar Province, a girl was injured and a number of houses were destroyed.

Similarly, as a result of the heavy Pakistani shelling of the Army garrison in Konar Province, which took place at 1100 on 10 December, one of the Army personnel of that garrison was seriously injured.

In connection with these attacks, an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs First Political Department at 1500 today summoned the charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul and made the following statement to him:

The DRA regards this armed, irresponsible and provocative aggression, which heightens tension on the borders of the two countries, as a serious threat to the peace of the region. The DRA therefore lodges a strong protest with the Government of Pakistan and once again points out that the relevant Pakistani authorities should immediately halt the continuation of its armed aggression on DRA territory, otherwise the grave consequence of these hostile actions will rest entirely on the responsible authorities of Pakistan.

Army Political Chief Addresses Graduates*LD112322 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1200 GMT
11 Dec 84*

["Excerpt" of a speech by Brigadier General Yasin Sadeqi, member of the PDPA Central Committee and chief of the Army's Political Affairs, to the Amani Lycee at the graduation of 12 grades to join the Armed Forces; date not specified — recorded]

[Excerpt] Fortunately at present the Army, sarandoy and security police as a whole have achieved many victories. You have heard about the Panjsher, Andarab and Khost victories; dozens of districts, subdistricts and hundreds of villages and hamlets were liberated from the counterrevolutionaries. We have equipped our villages and hamlets with the conditions of new revolutionary order.

Comrades: The summer and winter period of this year as a whole was a period in which the counterrevolutionaries incurred crushing and deadly blows during combat operations; also, the majority of those who had been deceived while armed surrendered to the ranks of the Armed Forces. This surrendering of more than 1,000 bands and ex-rebel groups, consisting of more than 100,000 men, indicates the increasing organization of our forces, ranks and our strength.

However, comrades, I must mention the fact that the counterrevolutionaries, the enemy, are still being financed by the United States on the instructions of the Reagan administration. They give arms and equip our enemies. \$280 million in U.S. aid to counterrevolutionaries, of which, of course, large sums go into the pockets of the Pakistani rulers and the pockets of the bandits' leaders — this by itself explains the truth of our revolution. [sentence as heard]

To the extent, comrades, that you serve the ranks of your Armed Forces, to that same extent you inflict crushing and fatal blows on the enemy and accelerate their elimination.

Tribal Jirgas Express Support for Government*LD122257 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT
12 Dec 84*

[Excerpts] At a recent meeting in the building of nationalities and the tribal department of Rowdat district, Nangarhar Province, the elders and chiefs of this province gave an assurance to the revolutionary government about their comprehensive cooperation for further consolidation of the government authority and restoration of security in their region. At this tribal jirga they pledged that whoever shelters in his home counterrevolutionary elements, or cooperates with them, will be punished by the tribe in accordance with tribal tradition. Speaking on behalf of the working people of Rowdat district, Malik Asghar and Malik Mohammad 'Alam expressed their readiness to consolidate further government authority and to restore security in their region.

A similar jirga was recently held at the headquarters of the Eastern zone, Jalalabad City, by the elders and chiefs of the Abdorahimzai tribe, Qargha'i district, Laghman Province. (Mef-tahodin Safi), head of the Eastern zone, spoke about the humanitarian objectives of the party and our revolutionary government, and expressed appreciation for the patriotic feelings and cooperation of the workers of this district.

Clandestine Broadcast on Mujahidin Operations*GF130757 (Clandestine) Voice of the Islamic Revolution
of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 12 Dec 84*

[Text] A leader of the Islamic Movement of Afghanistan at a press conference has announced that commanders of various groups have complete coordination at the fronts because they have one common goal, one common belief, one common enemy, and one common country. He said that the area needing more attention is the need for greater coordination, order, and discipline among the various commanders.

Our mujahidin brothers, with complete coordination and calculated guerrilla plans, have attacked the joint Soviet and Karmal forces in western Afghanistan. In one of these attacks, which took place close to a cement factory in the west, heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy forces. In their operations our Muslim Mujahidin brothers succeeded in killing or wounding 50 Soviet and Karmal mercenaries.

In this attack another 30 persons from the enemy forces were made prisoners of war by our Muslim Mujahidin. Our Mujahidin brothers add that they have carried out several other attacks on the Soviet and Karmal mercenary forces. As a result of attacks in Qandahar, our Muslim mujahidin succeeded in destroying a number of enemy tanks and killed two of the enemy.

According to other reports, in a calculated guerrilla attack our Muslim Mujahidin recently attacked the enemy at the headquarters of the enemy force stationed 20 kilometers east of Herat city. (Nirwan), located in a mountainous area, was besieged by our Muslim mujahidin. The battle lasted throughout the night. Our Muslim brothers with their heroic operations succeeded in destroying the base. In this operation about 50 of the enemy were killed and heavy losses were inflicted on their vehicles. In this attack our Muslim mujahidin captured one tank and a large amount of arms and ammunition.

BAKHTAR Comments on U.S. Aid to Rebels

LD081933 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Kabul 18 Qows, 8 Dec (BAKHTAR) — The political commentator of BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY writes:

THE NEW YORK TIMES recently wrote that in the current fiscal year the Reagan administration has secretly allocated some \$280 million for military assistance to Afghanistan's counterrevolutionaries. This figure is twice that of the so-called assistance allocated to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries in the fiscal year ending 1 October.

The newspaper points out that the sum of assistance since the beginning of 1979 totals \$625 million. This figure does not include \$100 million dollars which, according to last year's official statistics, was given to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries by U.S. accomplices for the intensification of the undeclared war against the DRA.

This money is being spent outside the country for arming and training terrorist bandits. In Pakistan alone, there are more than 100 military camps where 300 instructors from the American CIA are engaged in training saboteurs. With this money, the exported bandits have inflicted severe losses on the Afghan economy over the past 6 and 1/2 years.

The new financial assistance to terrorist bandits, which is further proof of the intensification of the undeclared war against Afghanistan by U.S. and Pakistani militarists, fully confirms the policy of the U.S. Republicans, whose object is to expand U.S. interference in the internal affairs of developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Nevertheless, even representatives of the U.S. Congress have admitted that this assistance will not bring victory to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, but will accelerate their certain defeat. The fact is that despite the formidable and increasing assistance from the United States and its allies to the killers and subversive bandits, the DRA Armed Forces have confronted these bandits with decisive and deadly defeat.

In the current year, groups of counterrevolutionaries in Panjsher and Andarab were eliminated, and successful operations were carried out against the bandits in Herat, Velayat Nangarhar and Paktia, as well as in the north of the country. The Afghan Armed Forces seized large numbers of weapons, including rocket launchers, rockets, recoilless guns, mortars, hundreds of heavy machine guns, and nearly 3000 antitank and antipersonnel mines.

Despite the United States' attempts to maintain the explosive situation in the region by increasing its military assistance to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries, this assistance cannot halt the progressive course of Afghanistan, which has been specified by the April revolution, or weaken the powerful determination and courage of the defenders of Afghanistan's freedom and independence.

Rajiv Gandhi on Unity, Protection of Minorities

*BK121009 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
12 Dec 84*

[Text] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has said that the government will deal firmly with elements trying to weaken the country in the name of religion and language. Addressing a public meeting at Jagdishpur in Uttar Pradesh this morning, he said the foremost task before the people is to preserve the country's unity and integrity and to strengthen secularism. Mr Gandhi asked the opposition parties to come out categorically against the Akali Dal's Anandpur Sahib's resolution which contains seeds of disintegration. He said full protection will be given to the life and property of the minorities in the country.

Further Reportage on Bhopal Gas Disaster**Evacuation Arrangements Completed**

*BK130912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
13 Dec 84*

[Text] The Madhya Pradesh government has made elaborate arrangements for shifting the people who want to move from the area in the close vicinity of the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal to the camps being set up at safer places. An official spokesman told newsmen in Bhopal today that the entire area has been divided into 11 sectors and bus services will be provided for transportation of the people from each sector from 1400 tomorrow.

The spokesman said that camps have been set up at 11 places to accommodate an estimated population of 50,000. It has been reiterated that there is no danger at all during the gas neutralization process to be taken up at the Union Carbide factory from 0900 on Sunday [16 December].

Arrangements for evacuation of people from some areas are being made only as a precautionary measure. About 4,000 additional police personnel have been summoned from outside to ensure security and safety of the people. The army has been kept on the alert to swing into action at short notice. The All-India Radio Bhopal correspondent says that the city bus stands and the railway station have been experiencing extraordinary rush of people who are returning to their homes after inquiring about the welfare of the relations in Bhopal. About 200 additional buses have been pressed into service to cope with the rush. The railways are likely to make some arrangements. All educational institutions in the city have been closed till the 23d of this month. Some people are sending the families out of the city as a precautionary measure.

Experts Study Gas Aftereffects

*HK120952 Hong Kong AFP in English 0907 GMT
12 Dec 84*

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] Bhopal, India, Dec 12 (AFP) - The Bhopal holocaust is providing chemical warfare specialists with a unique open lab-

oratory to study the after-effects of killer gas on human beings, scientists said today.

Meanwhile, a strike by junior doctors in the city's biggest hospital, where many of the gas victims were being treated, entered its second day.

Unimpeachable sources with access to official information said that up to six chemical warfare experts from four Western countries are here posing as doctors to study the ghastly aftermath of the world's worst environmental tragedy.

"The government is helpless as they are listed as doctors here to help the surviving victims of the gas disaster," one source said.

The killer gas methyl isocyanate (MIC), which killed over 2,500 people and harmed around 200,000 is a derivative of phosgene - the killer gas used for the first time during the first world war, scientists said.

The unimpeachable sources said the chemical warfare experts were from the United States, West Germany, Britain and Canada. They are real doctors, but are involved in defence research, the sources added.

Between 50 to 60 foreign medical men here have unrestricted access to hospitals and victims although they cannot enter the Union Carbide pesticides plant.

The sources said the doctors had been seen asking local doctors for minute details on the symptoms of the dying, and the health records of the surviving victims, the sources said.

The state administration here refused to comment on the reports.

In addition to the foreign specialists, there are about 50 Indian scientists here to study the after-effects, the sources said.

The Indian scientists are from various research organizations, including the national chemical laboratory and defence research and development organisation, an official statement said.

The Indian scientists are headed by Dr S. Yaradrajann, the director-general of the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and backed up by an army of scientists working in different research laboratories throughout India, the statement added.

Doubts first arose over the credentials of some of the "foreign doctors" after they had met Indian scientists and doctors.

"Some of the questions had nothing to do with the task of helping the surviving victims. We are not fools. We understand who these people are," said one Indian scientist who asked not to be identified.

"We are concerned with the immediate treatment of the survivors, but they are more interested in knowing how a gas victim reacted when brought to the hospital. Which organ failed first, what was the time span between admission and death and various symptoms," he added.

Meanwhile, junior doctors were on strike for a second day in the state-owned Hamidia hospital, where a large number of gas victims were being treated. A senior doctor said he was hopeful of an early solution.

The doctors, numbering about 900, including final year medical students, are alleging that a municipal councillor, Ashok Bhaba, slapped a doctor in the city's biggest hospital.

Hospital medical superintendent, Dr N.R. Bhandari told the Press Trust of India (PTI) that Mr Bhaba had apologised to State Chief Minister Arjun Singh, but the doctors wanted his resignation as city councillor and expulsion from the Congress (I) Party.

According to a junior doctor, local politicians were harassing doctors by asking them to visit their constituencies and treat patients not affected by the gas leak.

Congress-I Leader Stoned in Karnataka

*BK130335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
13 Dec 84*

[Text] In Karnataka, the Congress-I leader, Mr S.M. Krishna, who is seeking reelection from Mandya, was injured when a group of people threw stones at his meeting at (K. M. DODI) yesterday. The police resorted to a lathi [baton] charge and later used tear gas to bring the situation under control.

Curfew Imposed in Jammu, Kashmir Border Town

*BK130329 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
13 Dec 84*

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, curfew has been imposed on the border town of Rajaori following a clash between two groups of people yesterday. Five persons, including two policemen, were injured in the clash.

INDIAN EXPRESS Examines Sri Lankan Situation

*BK121429 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English
3 Dec 84 p 6*

[Editorial: "Step Back in Time"]

[Text] The recent escalation of violence in Sri Lanka, which prompted the government to announce special measures, has taken a further adverse turn with a brutal terrorist raid on two prison rehabilitation farms in the North, killing 80 inmates and

over 65 guerrillas. This represents the highest casualty toll of any encounter so far and can only jeopardise the prospects for a negotiated settlement through all-party talks scheduled to be resumed in Colombo later this month. The rising tide of violence is to be deplored. Following attacks by Tamil separatist guerrillas on army and police personnel last week, the Sri Lanka government announced the imposition of emergency regulations. These include declaring a prohibited zone off the northern coast extending 100 metres into the sea, and restricting movement in the northern district which has been declared a security zone. Dusk to dawn curfew has been imposed in Jaffna and night curfew in Colombo. State Minister and Cabinet spokesman Dr Anandattisa de Alwis in fact said that in view of the statements made by Tamil separatists, the country would have to "prepare for war." The Sri Lanka Freedom Party too has come out openly in support of the government. In a statement last week, Mr Anura Bandaranaike, joined the government in declaring that Tamil separatists were operating out of "bases" in Tamil Nadu.

India must consider carefully how it responds to this tragic situation. While sympathy for the Tamil cause in Sri Lanka may understandably find a stronger echo during the weeks leading up to the Lok Sabha and State elections in Tamil Nadu, the Government of India should not allow this electoral factor to influence its basic attitude and approach. Some of the Lanka separatist-terrorist groups possibly feel that they need to get a more definitive commitment from India and that the time to do so is now, using the "leverage" afforded by the Indian elections. Any such thought needs to be firmly discouraged. India's national interest demands that Sri Lanka's unity and integrity be upheld, within a liberal federal structure that can and should be negotiated, and that terrorism and separatism in any form be given no quarter. The Government of India has repeatedly denied giving any assistance or comfort, overt or covert, to the Lanka separatists. It is important that while proffering its good offices to Sri Lanka to bring about a peaceful accord — if these are sought by Mr Jayewardene — the Indian Government must be able to convince Colombo that its apprehensions of Indian interference in its internal affairs in any form are completely mistaken. The statement by Delhi's official spokesman on Saturday could from this point of view have been more happily worded even while firmly rebutting the fantasy of a threatened Indian "invasion". The Lanka Tamils, having made their point, must not abandon the path of negotiation any more than the authorities in Colombo should seek a military solution. Neither is a viable option for Tamil or Sinhalese, and least of all for Sri Lanka.

Zia on Referendum, Islamic System of Government

*BK131203 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 12 Dec 84*

[Excerpt] Addressing large gatherings at Larkana and Sukkur today, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said in the referendum the people will decide the future of the country. He said he has presented himself before the people to win their support for laying the foundation of an Islamic welfare state during the next 5 years. The president made it [word indistinct] clear that the referendum does not mean the election of the president. Therefore, they should vote according to their conscience. He said while voting they must keep in mind the past record of the government. The president said in spite of the fact that it was martial law government, it was their endeavor to take the people into confidence by establishing Mushawarat [system of consultation] as provided under the Islamic tenets.

He said in order to complete the process of transfer of power, it was essential that continuity should be maintained in the steps taken during the last 7 and 1/2 years, keeping uppermost the aim of establishing Islamic system of government in the country. He said in the event of a yes vote in the referendum, he would be able to carry forward the Islamic measures in the interest of national stability and make Pakistan a real fortress of Islam.

The president reiterated that the referendum was no substitute for the elections which would certainly be completed according to the schedule announced by him. He said the assembly elected in the forthcoming elections would be called Majlis-i-Shoora [Adviser Council] as the elected representatives would advise the government. They would enjoy all powers provided for in an Islamic state and would not merely be a rubber stamp.

The president also declared that the 1973 Constitution would not be scrapped but would be completely Islamized.

Afghan Charges of Border Violations Rejected

*BK131550 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
13 Dec 84*

[Text] Pakistan has rejected as incorrect and mischievous the allegation leveled by the Karmal administration of Afghanistan that Pakistani forces had opened fire toward Peshghowr near Barikowt last Saturday, injuring one girl and damaging some houses. Another allegation was also made that a soldier of the Barikowt garrison was injured as a result of Pakistani firing across the border on Monday.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was told in Islamabad this afternoon that the Karmal administration's aims behind leveling repeated allegations of border violations are to mislead international public opinion about the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan and to maintain an atmosphere of tension and mistrust along the border. The Afghan charge d'affaires has been asked to convey to the Karmal authorities that they should stop playing these tricks. Pakistan has also informed the UN secretary general of its rejection of the Karmal administration's latest allegations.

Commentary on Peaceful Nature of Nuclear Program

*BK081324 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 7 Dec 84*

[Mubashshir Ahmad Majhoka Commentary]

[Text] It is astonishing for those who believe in truth and reality as to what is the basis and motivation for continued intensive propaganda against Pakistan's nuclear program. It is a fact that Pakistan has neither made its nuclear program a secret nor has she concealed its objective. Rather, Pakistan has been trying to clarify to the whole world the aims and objectives of its nuclear program so as to leave no room for any speculations. If Pakistan has not been sincere in its peaceful nuclear program, then its actions and conduct would have been different. Now, when Pakistan has repeatedly assured that its limited nuclear program is purely for peaceful purposes, there is absolutely no justification for any propaganda against it.

Like those countries of the world who are short of energy resources, Pakistan has started its nuclear program to meet its energy requirements. Shortage of conventional energy resources in Pakistan has made the use of nuclear energy unavoidable. Now when Pakistan is spending 60 percent of its foreign exchange on the import of oil, there appears to be no alternative except to resort to cheap and reliable source of nuclear energy. Pakistan is endeavoring for acquisition of nuclear technology for its use in agriculture, medicine, and industrial development, which has become necessary to meet present-day needs.

In putting this modern source of energy in use, the countries of the Third World need the help and cooperation of the developed countries, and they can operate upon this unlimited and cheaper source of energy when the developed countries are willing to extend them technical assistance and transfer of nuclear technology. Any hesitation, insistence, and cooperation [as heard] by the developed countries will not only have negative effects on international economies, it will also give rise to other social problems. Moreover, if the use of nuclear technology is not extended, use of oil will further increase resulting, in the depletion of its resources and this will affect directly in the trade between developed and developing countries. This is why the benefit of both lies in mutual cooperation and not to resort to an attitude which brings instability in the world economic system.

Pakistan has always been supporting the use of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, and it has always opposed nuclear proliferation. It has been repeatedly assured by Pakistan at the highest level that its nuclear program is only for peaceful purposes, which has also been confirmed by the international agency for nuclear energy. To remove any doubts about its nuclear program and to create an atmosphere of mutual trust, Pakistan, apart from assuring the world opinion, has offered its neighboring country, India, for setting up of a joint commission which should inspect the nuclear installations of both the countries. Pakistan's proposal to declare South Asia to be a nuclear-free zone is undeniable proof of the fact that Pakistan believes in the use of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and earnestly desires that this is used not for destruction of the world but for prosperity and welfare of human beings.

DAWN Discusses Trade Relations With Iran
*GF111300 Karachi DAWN in English Economic and
 Business Review Supplement 8 Dec 84 p 3*

[By M.B. Naqvi]

[Text] The three-track economic policies of today — pleasing the IBRD-IMF Group and obtaining maximum foreign aid, Islamising the economy and concluding the most favourable possible bilateral trade and cooperation deals — go on merrily ahead. And each leg of this tripod is in an interesting stage.

The last mentioned thrust is based on the otherwise debatable assumption that Pakistan ought to adopt a development strategy for growth, led by exports. A large number of two-way deals are being signed almost every other day. Notable among these are two latest examples, one of which is specific and the other is more of a hope than a practical scheme.

The concrete development is the signing of a bilateral deal of a some-what more comprehensive nature with Iran. The other appears more illusive: The South Asian states' summit would meet in January to devise an organisational structure for the SARC (South Asian Regional Cooperation).

The summit ought to be left out of the discussion until it actually meets and produces something. Politics impinges heavily on the prospect of more economic cooperation and trade among South Asian states.

The agreement between the finance ministers of Iran and Pakistan is of a different genre. Not that politics does not bear on this also. But somehow it is accepted as being of a different order and somewhat more amenable to solution or otherwise acceptable. For, the continued Iraq-Iran war is no minor hurdle. But what with the heavy and precipitate — 23 per cent during the last few months — decline in our exports to Iran from their peak of \$500 million and the common perceptions about the revival of the RCD (Regional Cooperation Development), a good trade and economic cooperation agreement with Tehran was found to be most expedient. The prospects are good indeed, though not without bugs.

Let us see the brighter side first. War-damaged economy of Iran certainly needs a lot of imports, some of which Pakistan can supply. It is nearest to the market; there is historical basis of trade and other links between the areas now forming Pakistan and, at least, south-western Iran. Throughout history, there has been a free across-the-border trade and travel between the two countries. Even the age of rigid passports and customs has not been able to put an end to these exchanges.

It is entirely possible to increase Pakistan exports, realistically speaking, to, say \$800 to \$900 million a year. Ideally Pakistan can boost it to anywhere between \$1.5 to \$2.0 billion. (We shall have to overcome the roadblocks only).

From Iran's side, the message seems to be loud and clear: so long as you buy from us roughly of the same order of goods as we buy, there is no ceiling on what Pakistan may export. There are good reasons to believe this Iranian attitude is unlikely to change. There

is thus firm basis for expanding both Pakistan trade and general economic cooperation.

Now the snags that have been holding up trade expansion between the two countries. Among all the difficulties money (in convertible exchange) is not one of them. Being an oil-exporting country, Iran is likely to remain a wealthy country for the immediate future. Pakistan and Iran are developing countries, with both adopting very odd kinds of development models.

In Pakistan, consumerism was adopted without first building up a modern productive apparatus or ensuring self-increasing market. In Iran, the Shah chose to make it a superpower without eliminating either rural poverty, illiteracy, feudalism or building a preliminary base of mutually-supporting light and heavy industries. These past economic adventures or mis-adventures constitute innumerable odds that have to be overcome.

War-torn Iran needs all sorts of goods ranging from consumer items to intermediate or even complete plants. The sheer quantity of cement and steel Iran would need in the next decade would justify several heavy plants in western Baluchistan — an area where heavy industrialisation would anyhow be most desirable because that is an area with smaller potential for agricultural growth.

Among other hurdles is the lack of communication facilities. Even telephone, telex and other such links that were established for the CENTO through a microwave system are not in good working order due to lack of proper maintenance. Road and rail links inside Pakistan are most unsatisfactory.

Lot of money meant for roads and their maintenance has gone to other sources. The road system in Baluchistan is in a very poor shape. The railway link between Quetta and Zahedan too can scarcely be called serviceable, much less reliable. It appears, the railway system as a whole has been allowed to go to pot.

The recourse, therefore, to a common shipping company is logical. However, in view of the continuing uncertainties of the Gulf war and other possible political mishaps, it would be a better strategy to have better roads and a good railway link with Iran — both of which should cost less than two or three jumbo jets and will yield far more, if the professional part of the work is done efficiently and honestly.

But then heavy investments on Baluchistan's roads and rails might conceivably involve several political considerations, despite their economic utility. Time was when the late Shah of Iran proposed a South Asian, and later Indian Ocean, economic grouping and under this he wanted Pakistan to do what it simply would not: allow Iran and all other states the right of transit.

He wanted his trade route from Dhaka to Antwerp as an alternative to shipping routes that are vulnerable to political vicissitudes.

Pakistan has always remained concerned about its security and feared that with the transit trade would come a profusion of foreign spies.

If Pakistan wishes to develop durable economic and trade links not only with Iran but with other countries also on the northern shores of the Gulf, it will have to make up its mind about a number of things, beginning with its own development strategy. We cannot realistically prognosticate that these countries would let themselves be used as a market by us as and when we have some surpluses to dispose of. Long-term trade with them would inevitably involve some coordination in planning and development with those countries. But that will be a basic and far reaching commitment.

Thus, either the SARC idea has to be given up as an altogether impractical or it will have to colour all our decisions. Pakistan's relations with most others will be deeply influenced by the SARC.

Maybe, it will develop into something very bright and highly useful for all its seven members. In which case, South Asia as a whole may wish to deal with the development and trade of Southwest Asia as a whole or its significant parts.

In any case, Pakistan will have to come out of the present ad hocism phase and make long-term decisions about how it wants to develop and what its priorities are. One can only hope that this kind of rethinking will not need a decade.

BANGLADESH

Delhi: Islamic Parties Form United Front

BK100427 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
10 Dec 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, 17 Islamic fundamentalist parties have formed a national united front under the leadership of the former president, Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed. The front seeks to resist the forces of repression and protect the national independence and sovereignty. The front has made it clear that it has had nothing to do with the major opposition party alliances and called for elections free from government influence under (the) suspended constitution.

SRI LANKA

Hameed Dismisses Rajiv Gandhi's Statement

NC130953 Paris AFP in English 0946 GMT
13 Dec 84

[Text] Colombo, Dec 13 (AFP)—Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed today dismissed Indian declarations of respect for Sri Lanka's sovereignty and integrity as a "standing mockery."

Mr Hameed's remarks came in a hard-hitting four-page reply to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's statement Tuesday accusing Sri Lankan security forces of "indiscriminate killing" and of harassing Indian fishermen.

"It is a matter of surprise and regret that the prime minister of India has chosen not to make any reference to the escalation of terrorist violence which during the last three weeks has led to the brutal killing of innocent civilians not limited to any particular part of the country, or to any community," Mr Hameed said.

These "terrorist activities" have been nurtured and controlled by "terrorist organisations" which have "received facilities in Indian territory," he said. "Terrorist leaders live openly in (the southern Indian state of) Tamil Nadu, make statements to the Indian press and are received by leading Indian political personalities. Terrorist leaders address and advocate the setting up of a separate state and are supported by some of the politicians even in the Indian parliament."

Sri Lanka accused India of "turning a blind eye" to the activities of these "terrorists on Indian territory" and a "deaf ear" to Sri Lankan protests. The foreign minister said the Sri Lankan Navy had neither crossed the maritime boundary into Indian waters nor fired upon or attempted to arrest fishermen on the Indian side of the boundary. Rather, Sri Lanka had regularly notified Indian authorities of the frequency of the sightings of Indian boats in Sri Lankan waters, the statement said.

It added that the government "must express its regret and dismay" over Mr Gandhi's statement whose "language, tone and substance can only encourage the terrorists and their supporters" in both India and Sri Lanka to continue their activities.

Some members of the Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are waging a bloody campaign for a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka's north and east, where most of the country's Tamils live.

Sectarian violence in Sri Lanka has claimed at least 374 lives by official counts since a fresh wave of Tamil separatist attacks broke out on November 19.

Cabinet Considers Rajiv Gandhi's Statement

BK121320 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT
12 Dec 84

[Text] A statement reported to have been made by the prime minister of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, concerning events in Sri Lanka was considered by Cabinet this morning. This was disclosed by the minister of state and the Cabinet spokesman, Dr Anandatissa de Alwis, when he addressed the media on matters taken up by the cabinet of ministers at their weekly meeting. Dr de Alwis said that the Cabinet has directed the minister of foreign affairs, A.C.S. Hameed, to prepare a reply to the Indian prime minister's statement. The Cabinet had also directed that various factual errors in Mr Gandhi's statement should be pointed out in his reply.

Dr de Alwis also revealed that President Jayewardene had told the Cabinet the last stages of the all-party conference had been finalized. The conference will convene on the 14th as scheduled. It will consider the legislation that has been drawn up for the implementation of the proposals. The minister added that the draft legislation was based on proposals which have already been discussed and on which there had been a consensus. The president had said that the whole concept was to have a package to ensure ("participation in) democracy starting at village level, like the present Gramodya Mandalayas [village councils], rising up to the national level.

The minister of state said that the president will explain the action that will follow to the government's parliamentary group which he will address in parliament at 1200 on the 19th of this month. The president had also informed the Cabinet that he had discussed some of the measures which he had proposed for a political settlement to the ethnic problem with the United States ambassador at large, General Vernon Walters. The general, he said, had expressed great pleasure at the willingness of the government to settle these matters at the conference table.

61-Hour Jaffna, Kilinochchi Curfew Lifted

BK130205 Colombo Overseas Service in Hindi 0130 GMT
13 Dec 84

[Text] The 61-hour curfew imposed in Jaffna and Kilinochchi areas was lifted at 0600 [0030 GMT] today. The curfew in force in Manner, Vavuniya, Mullattivu and Batticaloa Districts and Tirukkivil and Akkaraipattu was also lifted from today.

Security Forces Arrest 725 Suspected Terrorists

*BK130326 Colombo Overseas Service in Hindi 0130 GMT
13 Dec 84*

[Text] About 725 suspected terrorists have been arrested during the past 4 days in northern Sri Lanka. Most of the arrests were made in the Jaffna and Kilinochchi areas. According to the National Security Ministry, many regional leaders of the terrorist movement are among those arrested. National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali has said that the security forces were able to carry out security measures successfully during this period.

The Sri Lankan Army found a hideout of the terrorists in Pandattarippu, near Vaddukodai, in Jaffna yesterday. Military sources said that the Army was able to recover many items recently stolen by the terrorists, including telecommunications equipment stolen from the telecommunications department some time ago. These sources also said that the Army is continuing its (?search) operation for terrorists in Vaddukodai and Chulipuram. During these operations, at least six terrorists are believed to have been killed in an encounter, but the terrorists removed the bodies of the dead. In the meantime, reports say that many of the suspects were arrested in operations in Jaffna.

U.S. Special Envoy Meets Indian Officials

*BK130521 Colombo Overseas Service in Hindi 0130 GMT
13 Dec 84*

[Text] The U.S. special envoy, General Vernon Walters, has agreed with the Indian Government that a military solution would not be the correct solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. According to the Indian External Affairs Ministry, Gen Walters has presented the Indian authorities with an evaluation of all aspects of the situation in Sri Lanka. The Indian Govern-

ment has stressed the need to find a speedy political solution to the ethnic problem, and Gen Walters has agreed that a military solution is not feasible. The U.S. special envoy met the Indian foreign secretary, Mr M.k. Rasgotra; the chairman of policy planning committee, Mr G. Parthasarathy; and the secretary to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Mr P. Alexander.

Gen Walters, who visited Sri Lanka earlier this week, met President Jayewardene and many senior ministers.

President Jayewardene informed the Cabinet yesterday that he discussed the points raised by Gen Walters for a political solution to the ethnic problem. He said that Gen Walters had expressed satisfaction with the desire of the government to solve the problem through talks.

The Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, told a news conference in his constituency, Amethi in Uttar Pradesh, that India has no intention of invading Sri Lanka after the elections. Mr Gandhi expressed the hope that a solution to the Sri Lankan problem will emerge quite soon.

Delhi: TULF To Study Legislation on Ethnic Issue

*BK121519 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 12 Dec 84*

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front leader, Mr Amirthalingam, has said that he will study the draft legislation drawn up by the Sri Lanka Government to resolve the ethnic problem before deciding on its participation in the all-party conference. Mr Amirthalingam also told newsmen that about 200,000 members of the fishing community along the northern coast and the daily wage earners have been deprived of their livelihood due to the creation of a prohibited zone and the curfew in the north.

Khamene'i Sees Danger in 'Factionalism'*LD122304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
12 Dec 84*

[Text] On the first day of a 2-day seminar of all the governors general in the country, Mr Nateq-Nuri, minister of interior, accompanied by deputy ministers of interior and governors general from all over the country met Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president, this afternoon. In this meeting, the minister of interior first described the goals of the seminar.

Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i then spoke, emphasizing the importance of convening such meetings. He spoke on the importance of efforts by the country's officials towards strengthening and improving the efficiency of the [Islamic] order. Addressing the governors general he emphasized: You should get to know the problems and ills of this great body. Even if they cannot be totally cured, you should at least alleviate the pain in a temporary and localized manner.

Referring to the existence of different economic viewpoints in the country, Mr Khamene'i said: Different economic viewpoints can easily coexist. The private sector has a place in the Islamic order, but even in the most private issues the private sector should be under government supervision and planning.

Emphasizing the need for greater contact between governors general and the people, a nonpartisan attitude, and the enforcement of real values, the president said: When one talks about factionalism[goruhgara'i], some people think or pretend to think that factionalism means membership in the Islamic Republic Party. What is really meant by factionalism is nepotism, the creation of exclusive networks, or organizational or personal contacts gaining precedence over real principles and values. If one acts on the basis of factionalism, justice will be ignored, true values will be overlooked, and false principles will be adhered to.

Musavi Rejects U.S. Criticism on Hijacking*LD121801 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 12 Dec 84*

[Kuwaiti Plane Hijacking — Outrage Against U.S. Crimes — Musavi — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 13, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said here Wednesday that America was angry at the recent hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner because it had suffered a heavy blow and was extremely humiliated by it.

Speaking after a Cabinet session, Musavi said "I believe the root of the issue lies in the aggressive attitude that the United States has towards other countries.

"America still thinks that feudalism rules the world and therefore demands that Iran explain its handling of the hijacking affair," he said.

"If Reagan thought about what happened to Carter, he would understand that Iran explains nothing to anyone but God," he added.

"It is the aggressive policies of the United States that caused the death of the (two) Americans.

"If Iran had not acted logically but in a gangster-mafia fashion, probably other passengers would have been killed," he said.

"If the successful operations (in disarming the hijackers) had taken place in a U.S. satellite state, it would have been praised by the world media, for such is their dependence on the superpowers," Musavi said.

The prime minister said the captain, the crew, the passengers and a group of foreign diplomats who were in touch with the developments involving the hijacking have confirmed that Iran's handling of the issue was the best of all possible ways.

"Maybe the emphasis of the world media on this (hijacking) is to cover up American crimes in India (where gas leak from an American owned company killed thousands)," the premier noted.

On the role of the Western media during the hijacking the prime minister said it is surprising that the Zionist radio broadcast moaning voices (which it claimed was those of the passengers) but when Iran broadcast the moaning of the hostages we are accused that it was for the pleasure of the people.

He said the event clearly showed the cooperation between the Zionists and the Americans.

Musavi said (the superpowers) ask Iran to hand over the hijackers to them, "and these bullies should know that if the handing over of the hijackers was lawful, they should hand over the terrorists who have martyred hundreds inside Iran and who are now continuing their activities with the support of the Americans and the French.

"Then we shall hand over the hijackers to them", he said.

"We are an independent country and we act according to the laws and our beliefs", he added.

Musavi said Iran has repeatedly announced its opposition to hijacking but it is useless only for Iran to condemn hijacking alone.

"We believe that the root of the matter lies in European and American capitals and an example was the capturing of 13 people armed with knives and hand grenades who attempted to hijack a plane in Mashhad (eastern Iran) as the countdown for storming of the (Kuwaiti) plane had started," he added.

The prime minister said the to be hijackers in Mashhad intended to take the plane to Kuwait and then to Iraq but the government had not announced this in order not to complicate the matter.

He asked whether the statements of the U.S. secretary of state (George Shultz) did not indicate (?that) the crimes thwarted by Iranian security men (in capturing armed men in Mashhad) had been carried out with U.S. support.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the efforts of all oppressed governments will uproot world terrorism and will end adventures that threaten human lives.

Plot To Hijack Iranian Aircraft Foiled

LD121135 Tehran IRNA in English 1120 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 12, IRNA — A plot to hijack an Iranian passenger plane was foiled and all plotters were arrested on Saturday, it was announced today.

The officials at Mashhad Airport, Khorasan Province, on Saturday identified members of the counterrevolutionary Munafiqeen [Mojahedin-e Khalq] (MKO) splinter group who intended to hijack a passenger plane destined for Bushehr, and arrested them all.

The convicts, in their first interrogation, confessed that according to the schedule the plane was to be hijacked to Kuwait and then to Iraq. The trial of the convicts will start soon.

Envoy Condemns Kuwaiti Press on Hijacking

LD121957 Tehran IRNA in English 1915 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Kuwait, Dec. 12, IRNA — Iran's charge d'affaires to Kuwait, Mohammad Reza Baqeri today condemned the hostile atmosphere created by Kuwaiti press against the Islamic Republic concerning the hijacked Kuwaiti airplane last week.

Referring to the round-the-clock efforts of the Islamic Republic officials for a peaceful end to the hijack issue, Baqeri said the Kuwaiti Government was informed before hand of Iranian security men's storming of the hijacked plane but that the Kuwaiti officials had stressed the release of the hostages through peaceful methods and negotiations.

Condemning the atmosphere created by the Kuwaiti press here, he said although high-ranking Kuwaiti officials thanked the Islamic Republic for their efforts, however the Kuwaiti press distorted the realities. He said that the Kuwaiti press proved that it collaborated with the enemies of Islam, and noted that such impudence is expected only of the Zionist and Iraqi newspapers.

The stands taken by the Kuwaiti press were even more abject than those of the Zionist elements in Kuwait trying to strain relations between Iran and Kuwait, Baqeri said, adding that the Kuwaiti officials had been warned of this.

Baqeri said that if the incident had occurred in any other country there would have been considerable financial and human casualties, but the Islamic Republic authorities prevented a catastrophe with their suitable and timely measures.

The Iranian official also condemned air piracy and acts of terrorism against innocent people.

Montazeri on Social, Economic Concerns of Islam

LD122149 Tehran IRNA in English 1719 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 12, IRNA — Ayatollah Montazeri received families of martyrs from various provinces and members of the farmers Islamic associations in Qom on Tuesday, on the birth anniversary of Prophet Mohammad (SAW), coinciding with the last day of the Unity Week, marking greater cooperation between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims.

Ayatollah Montazeri spoke to the visitors on the role of prophet-hood in guiding human development and said that in the Holy Koran, God has said that he sent prophets as a favour of humanity, noting too that they were from the oppressed masses.

The ayatollah also spoke about the depth of theological teachings and said only a few such books are about prayers while the rest of are concerned with social and economic issues, indicating the interest Islam has towards the material and spiritual dimensions of life.

Ayatollah Montazeri said that unity of Muslims is a responsibility all world Muslims should share, while further noting that Muslims' Eastern and Western enemies try to destroy this unity.

He said that since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran the superpowers have tried in many ways, including the creation of pseudo-ulema to plot against Islam.

The prominent jurisprudent said that if Muslims has acted according to Koran in their relations with their enemies, and had not fallen prey to the provocations of the enemies, they would not be in the state they are now with their first center of prayer, that is the mosque of Qods, and Palestine being dominated by the enemies. He said also that they would not have witnessed the crimes of America and the Zionist regime in Lebanon and those of Soviet Union in Afghanistan.

The Muslims' present plight is a result of their being away from the teachings of the Koran and not knowing about the life of the Prophet, thus creating differences within themselves, he added.

The root of all problems afflicting Muslims, he said, lies in the hands of the superpowers and their corrupt agents in Islamic countries.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran the world powers were forced to once again acknowledge the strength of the Muslims and now they are supporting Saddam Husayn in an attempt to prevent his downfall. They are also employing all their strength to inflict blows against the Islamic Republic.

But, he added, all these attempts indicate the power of the Islamic Republic and the weakness and fear of the enemy of the awakened and united Muslims in their war against the world oppressors.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,939
LD121827 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 12, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces announced in its 1,939th communique issued today that more than 15 Iraqis were killed or wounded and at least six weaponry positions and observation posts were demolished in the northwestern fronts, mostly in Sayyid Sadiq, during the past 24 hours. Iraqi movements and activities were halted in these fronts and their fire was silenced.

In Kani Mangah region, the movement of Iraqi vehicles and motorised columns were halted by the heavy artillery fire of the Islamic combatants.

In the western fronts, three munitions depots of the enemy were set ablaze and seven of their observation posts were demolished. Iraqi casualties were reported to be more than 15 in these fronts.

Exchange of fire continued in the western fronts being more intense in Shahrani, Kushk, and Majnun Islands. Iraqi movements and engineering activities were checked by the Islamic combatants in these fronts.

In Abadan, four houses were damaged over the past 24 hours as a result of Iraqi long-range fire upon the city, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

Troop Departures for Battlefronts Continue

East Azarbaijan Guards Leave
GF121820 Tabriz Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Text] This evening 1200 self-sacrificing members of the mobilization department from various towns and districts of East Azarbaijan departed for the fronts to remove the remnants of the Ba'thist Zionist forces. Following a speech by the representative of the imam and the Friday imam of Tabriz, Ayatollah Malakuti, and a warm sendoff by the hezbollahi community of this city at the local garrison, the mobilized members left for the fronts of light against darkness.

The Revolution Guards Corps of East Azarbaijan announced that another convoy of [words indistinct] also departed for the front of light against darkness.

Combatants, Support Personnel Depart
LD131050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 13 Dec 84

[Text] According to a Central News Unit Esfahan report, the 348th group of brethren from the mobilization department of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Savaran set off yesterday to the battlefield of the war of right against wrong to fight against the mercenaries of world arrogance. They were given a warm sendoff by Hezbollah party members and their own families.

Also, during the past 2 days, in continuation of the popular forces setting off for the battlefronts of the war of justice against injustice, other mobilization department groups and the self-sacrificers of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the cities of Bojnurd, Birjand, Neyshabur and Esfarayen, set off to the theaters of war against the Zionist enemy to enthusiastic sendoffs by the people of their cities.

Also, in the past 2 days, other groups of technical experts in various fields, from the cities of Neyshabur, Yazd, and Bojnurd, set off for the war-afflicted regions of the country to aid in reconstruction and to provide technical services and support to the combatants of Islam.

Tehran-Istanbul Passenger Train Service To Resume
LD130629 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Tehran, Dec 12, IRNA — The minister of roads and transportation, Mohammad Hadinezhad-Hoseynian, Tuesday announced Iran's readiness for the resumption of Tehran-Istanbul passenger train lines.

Speaking in a meeting with the visiting Turkish Minister of Transport and Communication Veysel Atasoy here Tuesday, Hadinezhad-Hoseynian expressed the hope for the expansion of friendly relations between the two countries. He also explained the ministry's activities on roads, railways, aviation, transportation and ports and compared them to pre-Islamic Revolution era. Meanwhile, Atasoy expressed satisfaction with the existing mutual friendly relations and hoped for the expansion of such ties. He also hoped that the two countries would achieve positive results during their negotiations. The Turkish minister arrived here Tuesday heading a 9-man delegation. Iran is to make some proposals on land transportation resolution concluded between the two countries in 1980.

SAIRI Spokesman Visits Iraqi Refugee Camp
LD122227 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] Shiraz, Fars Pr. Dec. 12, IRNA — The spokesman for the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) Muhammad Baqer Hakim, today visited an Iraqi refugee camp in Jahrom, Fars Province and talked with its 3,000 residents.

He called on them to resist against all hardships and expressed the hope that Islamic combatants would free Iraq from the Ba'th rule. The refugees also include those who have fled Iraq for political reasons or those driven out of their countries because of the racist policies of the Iraqi regime.

USSR Forces, Afghan Troops Using Chemical Weapons
GF121107 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 2 Dec 84 London Weekly Edition

[Excerpts] The Soviet occupation forces and the Afghan Army have stepped up their operations against both the mujahidin and uncooperative civilians. There is widespread use of chemical and biological weapons. According to a mujahidin survey, victims

have been reported in 20 provinces. More than 114 people have been killed and many more injured this year. On October 1, thirty were killed at Kalakhil village, Bagram district, in Parwan Province.

Earlier in September, thirteen mujahidin were killed near Ghazni city.

Later casualties have been traced in the provinces of Konarha, Balkh, Samangan and Badakhshan.

Mustard gas is one of the most commonly used weapons in hand grenades. They give off a characteristic heavy yellow gas on impact. Tanks are fitted with special mustard gas shells. Earlier this year, an attack on Kuh-e Khamba in Kuhesta claimed more than 200 victims, who suffered for months from the poisonous effects of these tank shells.

Phosgene gas, employed in the First World War, is also widely used. It has similar effects to mustard gas with the victims developing rapid skin blisters and nausea. Death from dehydration or due to infection occurs in two to three weeks. This lethal gas was first used in Dahaneh-ye Ghowri district in April. Other weapons in the Soviet arsenal include a caustic spray that eats through clothing to cause serious skin burns. In an assault on a mujahidin hideout in Sarbagh area of Koh-e Pusht this had an instantaneous corrosive effect stripping the victims of their clothes.

The Soviet and Afghan forces are better equipped and trained to keep themselves safe from the ill-effects of chemical and biological warfare. But the mujahidin facing a wide variety of chemical weapons are unable to take prophylactic measures.

As in the Persian Gulf War, the use of these diabolical weapons by the aggressors receives little or no attention from the world media. With the recent Soviet reinforcements and their strengthening resolve to apply increasing pressure on the mujahidin, the war has intensified. The Afghan freedom-fighters, however, are carrying on the fight with the superpower, regardless of the odds against them.

Clandestine: 'Growing Resentment' Against Regime
GF130639 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian
 1630 GMT 12 Dec 84

[Text] In view of the growing resentment of the people against the cleric regime, the regime rulers are compelled to use Guards from the battlefronts to crush the dissidents. A military report obtained by Nejat-e Iran correspondents from elements connected with the Guards Corps reveals that in the last 40 days about 27,000 persons from the antipeople Guards Corps and mobilized personnel have been withdrawn from the fronts for operations in cities and for crushing the opponents of the regime. They have been stationed in the provincial centers.

The Nejat-e Iran correspondent adds that the spread of strikes in government organizations and factories, water and power installations, and telecommunications has forced the mullah regime to resort to the Guards stationed at the battlefronts.

Dissatisfaction among government officials, teachers, workers, and even some members of the Guards Corps after the introduction of the recent changes has reached a state impossible for the regime to control. The Nejat-e Iran correspondent says morale of the Guards and soldiers at battlefronts has reached its lowest point. This is because of differences between the commanders and the mullahs of the regime and because of long duty periods at the front that have no purpose.

CORRECTION TO TUDEH STATEMENT

The following correction pertains to the item headlined, "Tudeh, Feda'ayan-e Khalq Joint Statement," published in the 12 December South Asia *DAILY REPORT*, page I 3, paragraph five, line three:

...By openly betraying the revolution's popular targets, the regime's leaders see an attack against the interests of the working masses as the only solution to their problems...(supplying dropped words "the only solution to")